

Argon Bottles

Each of the Avenger's four argon bottles has a pressure test date that's good for 5 years. Once those 5 years have passed, you're not supposed to use the bottle until it's tested again. Using a bottle that may be leaking and have low pressure causes cryogenics problems.

So right now check the dates on all your unit's argon bottles. If any of their pressure tests are expiring in the next 6 months, get them tested now by support.



Batteries

Batteries are critical to the Avenger's performance. If the batteries aren't at full strength, the Avenger can give you firing faults. Make sure the crew does the battery PMCS spelled out in the Avenger operator's TM.

But all that battery PM won't do much good if the ground strap for the battery is in bad shape. A bad ground weakens battery performance. Check that the ground strap is tightly connected and not frayed or corroded. Clean off corrosion with a wire brush. Replace a frayed ground strap.



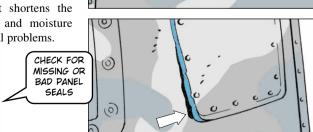
Access Panels

Turn panel screws

hand tight and stop

If you force the screws for the access panels as tight as possible, you'll pop out the inserts for the screws. As your support can testify, it's a timeconsuming job to replace those inserts. Hand tight is tight enough when you install the panel screws.

Pay attention to the access panel seals, too. If the seals are missing or have gaps, exhaust and moisture can get into the turret. Exhaust shortens the operator's life and moisture causes electrical problems.



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